WE CLAIM:

1. A personal care absorbent article comprising:

an outer cover layer;

a liner layer; and

a containment layer between the outer cover layer and the liner layer, wherein at least one of the layers is treated with a density modulator.

2. The absorbent article of Claim 1, wherein the density modulator is applied to the liner layer.

3. The absorbent article of Claim 2, wherein the density modulator is applied to the liner layer in a concentration of up to about 20% by weight of the liner layer.

4. The absorbent article of Claim 2, wherein the density modulator is applied to the liner layer in a concentration of between about 5% and about 15% by weight of the liner layer.

5. The absorbent article of Claim 2, wherein the density modulator is applied to the liner layer in a concentration of between about 8% and about 12% by weight of the liner layer.

6. The absorbent article of Claim 1, wherein the density modulator is applied to the containment layer.

7. The absorbent article of Claim 6, wherein the density modulator is applied to the containment layer in a concentration of up to about 6% by weight of the containment layer.

8. The absorbent article of Claim 6, wherein the density modulator is applied to the containment layer in a concentration of between about 0.1% and about 3% by weight of the containment layer.

9. The absorbent article of Claim 6, wherein the density modulator is applied to the containment layer in a concentration of between about 0.2% and about 1.5% by weight of the containment layer.

10. The absorbent article of Claim 1, wherein the density modulator is applied to both the liner layer and the containment layer.

11. The absorbent article of Claim 1, wherein the density modulator reduces the density of the containment layer without lysing red blood cells when the containment layer comes into contact with a blood-containing bodily fluid.

12. The absorbent article of Claim 1, wherein the at least one layer treated with the density modulator increases in thickness by at least about 12% when the at least one layer comes into contact with a blood-containing bodily fluid.

13. The absorbent article of Claim 1, wherein the at least one layer treated with the density modulator is a nonwoven web material selected from the group consisting of airlaid, airformed, wetlaid, absorbent laminates, nonwovens, fluid permeable polymeric film, and combinations thereof.

14. The absorbent article of Claim 13, wherein the at least one layer treated with the density modulator comprises at least one superabsorbent dispersed throughout the nonwoven web material.

15. The absorbent article of Claim 1, wherein the density modulator comprises alkyl glycoside.

16. A wound dressing comprising the absorbent article of Claim 1.

17. A catamenial device comprising:

an outer cover layer;

a liner layer; and

a containment layer between the outer cover layer and the liner layer, wherein at least one of the layers is treated with a density modulator.

18. The catamenial device of Claim 17, wherein the density modulator is applied to the liner layer.

19. The catamenial device of Claim 18, wherein the density modulator is applied to the liner layer in a concentration of up to about 20% by weight of the liner layer.

20. The catamenial device of Claim 18, wherein the density modulator is applied to the liner layer in a concentration of between about 5% and about 15% by weight of the liner layer.

21. The catamenial device of Claim 18, wherein the density modulator is applied to the liner layer in a concentration of between about 8% and about 12% by weight of the liner layer.

22. The catamenial device of Claim 17, wherein the density modulator is applied to the containment layer.

23. The catamenial device of Claim 22, wherein the density modulator is applied to the containment layer in a concentration of up to about 6% by weight of the liner layer.

24. The catamenial device of Claim 22, wherein the density modulator is applied to the containment layer in a concentration of between about 0.1% and about 3% by weight of the liner layer.

25. The catamenial device of Claim 22, wherein the density modulator is applied to the containment layer in a concentration of between about 0.2% and about 1.5% by weight of the liner layer.

26. The catamenial device of Claim 17, wherein the density modulator is applied to both the liner layer and the containment layer.

27. The catamenial device of Claim 17, wherein the density modulator reduces the density of the containment layer without lysing red blood cells when the containment layer comes into contact with a blood-containing bodily fluid.

28. The catamenial device of Claim 17, wherein the at least one layer treated with the density modulator increases in thickness by at least about 12% when the at least one layer comes into contact with a blood-containing bodily fluid.

29. The catamenial device of Claim 17, wherein the at least one layer treated with the density modulator is a nonwoven web material selected from the group consisting of airlaid, airformed, wetlaid, absorbent laminates, nonwovens, fluid permeable polymeric film, and combinations thereof.

30. The catamenial device of Claim 29, wherein the at least one layer treated with the density modulator comprises at least one superabsorbent dispersed throughout the nonwoven web material.

31. The catamenial device of Claim 17, wherein the density modulator comprises alkyl glycoside.

32. A catamenial device comprising:

a porous synthetic substrate treated with alkyl glycoside.

33. The catamenial device of Claim 32, wherein the alkyl glycoside is applied to the substrate in a concentration of between about 0.1% and about 8% by weight of the treated substrate.

34. The catamenial device of Claim 32, wherein the alkyl glycoside is applied to the substrate in a concentration of between about 0.25% and about 3% by weight of the treated substrate.

35. The catamenial device of Claim 32, wherein the alkyl glycoside is applied to the substrate in a concentration of between about 0.3% and about 1.5% by weight of the treated substrate.

36. The catamenial device of Claim 32, wherein the alkyl glycoside reduces the density of the substrate without lysing red blood cells when the substrate comes into contact with a blood-containing bodily fluid.

37. The catamenial device of Claim 32, wherein the substrate treated with the alkyl glycoside increases in thickness by at least about 12% when the substrate comes into contact with a blood-containing bodily fluid.

38. The catamenial device of Claim 32, wherein the substrate is a nonwoven web material selected from the group consisting of airlaid, airformed, wetlaid, absorbent laminates, nonwovens, fluid permeable polymeric film, and combinations thereof.

39. The catamenial device of Claim 38, wherein the substrate comprises at least one superabsorbent dispersed throughout the nonwoven web material.

40. A sanitary pad comprising the catamenial device of Claim 32.

41. A tampon comprising the catamenial device of Claim 32.